

**Global Risk Identification Programme (GRIP)
Risk Sub-programme Planning Workshop
4-6 January 2006, Columbia University, New York**

Charge to the Panel

Background:

The main objective of GRIP is an “improved evidence base for disaster risk management to enable the application and prioritization of effective disaster risk reduction strategies at the national, regional, and global scales.” GRIP is divided initially into two sub-programmes, “Risk” and “Loss”. The risk sub-programme will focus on the occurrence and characterization of hazardous events, the potential exposures and vulnerabilities, and the interplay with various risk management tools. The loss sub-programme will focus on methodologies of disaster loss estimation, standards for post-disaster assessments, and improvements in loss databases. Obviously there are overlaps.

Purpose of the meeting:

The purpose of this inaugural meeting of the risk panel is to provide a wide-ranging survey of issues related to risk identification and assessment at relevant temporal and spatial scales. The talks should be short and broad, concentrating more on making overarching arguments rather than deeply detailed technical points. A key focus at this meeting will be on identifying the scientific and technical requirements for pursuing natural hazard risk management strategies at regional or national levels, in the context of planning demonstration projects and a five-year program.

Charge to the Panel:

The panel must prepare a summary of the meeting in the form of a white paper for presentation to the GRIP Steering Committee in Bangkok, February 4, 2006. The white paper will have these components, at least initially:

1. Summary of global multihazard risk comparisons
2. Exemplars of national and regional studies
3. Scientific and technical issues in single and multiple hazard event characterization
4. Scientific and technical issues in assessing vulnerabilities
5. Exemplars of risk management tools available to development organizations
6. Future role of the Risk Panel
7. Conclusions and recommendations for further action

Within these themes, the discussions should focus on issues and limitations, including scientific, technical, and socio-economic constraints vitiating risk management at regional and national levels. Specific technical impediments, as well as opportunities, should be identified. It will also be important to identify issues of data availability and exchange, technical and scientific capacity, and the status of technical, institutional and social infrastructure. Discussion is also needed on metrics for measuring capacity, assessing readiness to participate and monitoring progress in achieving goals.